

RURAL WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (RWDC)

Dang, Ghorahi, Nepal



background:

Ramin Mahila Utthan Kendra (Rural Women Development Centre-RWDC) came into existence, as pioneering social organization in 1993 to combat social disparity, rife with superstitions, marginalization of rural women, discriminatory practices and patriarchal mind set. It has traversed 21 year's incessant journey since its inception in 2051 BS. It has played a creative and crucial role in the society transforming the society for positive change. It caters to the needs of more than 53450 rural women as well as marginalized communities to improve their livelihood and entrepreneurship through capacity building, income generating, decent home for everyone, climate change and adaption, livelihood, literacy, citizenship and voters registration programs with the support of foreign donor agencies and self initiated microfinance program. Fundamentally, it focuses on social and economic sustainability by dint of empowering women through microfinance and various advocacy campaigns, grass root mobilization and literacy awareness program launched with the support of various donor agencies.

sion:

Create Self-reliant and Empowered Society

ission:

Facilitate accessibility of backward and disadvantaged women, children to opportunity of education, health and economic development. Goal: To improve the living standard of backward and disadvantaged class of women and children by conducting education, health, and income generation.

icrofinance Program:

Microfinance Program is an indispensable instrument for poverty alleviation in Nepal. Nepal is a country full of villages and only villages, wherein nearly 80% of people live in rural areas. Such a huge number of people are deprived of all banking services even today. Most of these banks are located in the towns and the bank



loan disbursement process is complicated besides taking long time. Without collateral, the banks do not grant loans. Keeping in view that like other businessmen, capitalist and rich farmers, the poor and women also need banking services, RWDC started disbursing micro loans to the women on the basis of group as collateral, after taking a finance intermediary license from Nepal Rastra Bank in accordance with the Act 2055 BS. So far, the Microfinance Program has created an access to the banking services for those poor and rural women, who did not have any access to it previously. Under this program, RWDC renders door to door banking services to the rural clients. By now, 35500 members have benefited from this Microfinance program.

Creating Self-Employment for Rural Women:

Microfinance has created Self-Employment for thousands of poor rural women, who are now engaged in Self-Employment entrepreneurship due to micro loans provided by RWDC. Increasing number of Poultry Farms, Vegetable Farm, Pig Farm, Goat Farm, and Small Grocery Shops can be seen in every nook and corners of rural areas that are prospering and enhancing the financial conditions and livelihood of the rural women, who previously did not have any access to banking services.



Strengthening Smallholder Enterprise Development Project

Strengthening Small Holder Enterprise Development Project is being implemented in collaboration with Heifer International Nepal from 15 March 2012 to February 2016, in Satbariya Village Development Committee in Dang district. The main objective of this project is to enhance the income generating capacities of the poor farmers and women empowerment. The



project motto revolves around the philosophy of "passing on the gift" to others after benefiting from the project. Promoting the capacity development and institutional development and mobilization of local resources for mainstreaming the development are the major hallmarks of this project.

Sangai Sikaun Sangai Badhaun

RWDC in partnership with World Education has been implementing "Sangai Sikaun Sangai Badhaun" in Dang and Banke districts. The main objective of this project is to promote and ensure full enrollment of drop out school children of early childhood education (ECD) to grade eight and promote quality education, by initiating literacy and livelihood programs for the parents of the school dropout children, in order to ensure re-enrollment of such children in schools. Economic education and livelihood support program, box library distribution, business specific training, module discussion, reading camps are major focused activities. The targeted parents under this program are engaged as members of microfinance program initiated by RWDC and given loans to start their own self-initiated entrepreneurship.



Campaign for 100000 Houses

Miller Fuller said that if a sibling does not get land soil despite having enough air and sunlight, it will wither away; similarly if a modern man does not possess a house, his life's development does not take place. The house has its own importance. Every human being fancies for a house with the beginning of his life. Then only he or she moves to other businesses. So, a house is the first priority of the human beings.

We know that the birds also have their own nests, and animals have their own houses to live in and every evening they move to their safe and sound houses. Considering this, Habitat for Humanity Nepal initiated the campaign for creation of 100000 houses in which we also engaged ourselves by designing a Housing loan Product under Microfinance Program.

Improved Living Condition through active Community Participation-KOICA Project

This project was implemented in Dang District from March 2012 to March 2015 with cooperation with Habitat for Humanity International Nepal. The main activities included Bamboo Training, WASH Training for Women Group, WASH training for students, displaying hoarding boards, wall painting, kitchen garden, Mason training and leadership training. The project targeted a total of 5000 households. The main objective is to promote protection of environment and secured housing for the targeted beneficiaries.



Initiative for Climate Change and Adaptation

RWDC in partnership of IDE Nepal, Rupantaran, RIMS Nepal and with financial support of USAID has been implementing Climate Change and Adaptation Project in Dang district is still continued. Facilitating and building Adaptation and Resilience capacity of the vulnerable communities to Climate change by



reducing negative effects of climate change besides combating the adverse effects of climate change, thereby enhancing good governance, capacity building such as entrepreneurship, adopt adequate knowledge for adaptation including information and dissemination about climate changes and adopt local adaptation plan of action (LAPA). One of the major objectives is to increase every family's yearly income by 100 \$. It works for forest, small irrigation, NTFP and off seasonal vegetable farming.

Ghorahi Community Development Project:

RWDC in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity International Nepal/ Habitat for Humanity International Australia under the Charitable

Foundation (TCF) has implemented Ghorahi Community Development Project from January 2014 till date within Ghorahi Municipality. The main objective of this project is to support in building safe



houses for those houseless former bonded laborers, Dalits, poorest of the poor people and marginalized communities along with enabling them to have access to health, sanitation and livelihood means. The project provides trainings on mason, ACT, Well to enhance their capacities and skills for income generation through conduction of various skill oriented trainings, workshops and interactions. The project encourages economic houses which are earthquake resistant and environment friendly and cost effective. The leadership development is also another aspect of this project. All the trained people are having good daily incomes, which has resulted in the improvement of their livelihood to a great extent. The poor and marginalized community members languishing in thatched huts dwellers have been greatly benefited from this program.

Civil Electoral and Political Participation of Marginalized Communities in Nepal

RWDC in collaboration with International Foundation of Electoral System (IFES), funded by USAID has embarked upon an initiative to enable sustained democratic practices in Nepal with more proactive participation of people from Women, Dalits, Youths and Persons with disabilities in Nepal. The project's main target is for a total of 8000 Voters Registration and 3000 Citizenship certificate for beneficiaries through individual support as well as mobile camps during project from March 1 to July 31, 2016 in 40 Village Development Committees of four districts including Dang, Salyan, Banke and Bardia.

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